

REMARKS

In the Office Action of April 29, 2005, the Examiner subjected this application to a three-way Restriction Requirement among the following Groups:

- I. Method claims 5, 11, and 13-15;
- II. Apparatus claims 16-18; and,
- III. Apparatus claims 19-29.

ELECTION

The applicants elect the apparatus claims of Group III. With this amendment, it is submitted that Group III now includes independent claim 19, dependent claims 16-18 and 20-29, and new apparatus claim 30.

Claim 19, which closely parallels the method steps of the allowed parent application, sets forth the apparatus in means plus function format. New claim 30 parallels claim 19, but without using the means plus function format. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 30 is properly grouped with claim 19.

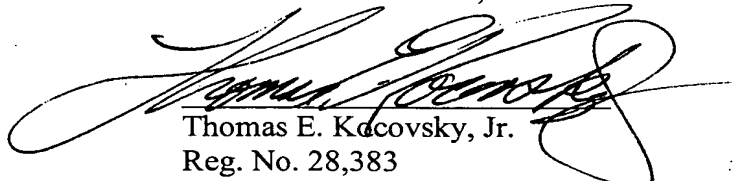
Independent claims 16 and 18 have been amended to depend from claims 19 and 30, respectively. This amendment is without prejudice to file a further divisional application to prosecute one or both of non-elected claims 16 and 18.

CONCLUSION

An early allowance of elected claims 16-30 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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